NEW YORK CITY
TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

Minutes of Commission Meeting

May 28, 2015

Present:

Meera Joshi, Commissioner/Chair
Elias Arout, Commissioner
Frank Carone, Commissioner
Edward Gonzales, Commissioner
Jacques Jiha, Commissioner
Nora Marino, Commissioner
Lauvienska Polanco, Commissioner
Christopher Wilson, General Counsel

1. Chairperson Joshi called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. with Commissioners Arout, Carone, Gonzales, Jiha, Marino, and Polanco present and reported the following:

   • The TLC is supporting state legislation that would eliminate the exemption for seatbelt use in taxis.
   • The TLC released the first pre-proposal conference on a request for proposal for a Citywide Accessible Dispatch vendor. The goal is to expand accessible dispatch service from Manhattan to the entire city.
   • Eighty-seven percent of commuter van authorities are now participating in the Commuter Van Pilot, which requires that participants place decals on their vans to help passengers easily identify legal commuter vans. The TLC is planning to make permanent the pilot project by rulemaking.
   • In August 2015, as required by state law, the street hail livery permit fee will increase from $3,000 to $4,500.

2. Item 4 on the Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (April 23, 2015, Commission meeting). The minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made to adopt the minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

3. Item 5 on the agenda, Base Applications for Determination, was presented to the Commission by Chris Tormey, Director of Applicant Licensing. The following bases were presented for consideration:
NEW (4):

B02816  GLS Trans Inc.
B02850  In'tegrite I.I.R. Transportation Services LLC
B02842  KOQ Transportation Inc.
B02839  Yerushalayim Car & Limo Inc.

RENEWAL (2):

B02508  Dispatch Central, Inc.
B02485  Sandra Car & Limo Svc Inc.

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP (2):

B02395  Abatar Inc./dba: Abatar Car & Limo Service
B01029  Zion Car Service Inc.

CHANGE OF LOCATION (1):

B01616  H & B Car and Limousine, Inc./dba: Sunnyside Car Service

CHANGE OF BASE NAME (1):

B00906  Olympic Operating Car Service Inc.

4. A motion was made to approve the base station license applications recommended for approval and deny the bases recommended for denial. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Item 6, Street Hail Livery Renewal Fee, was deferred.

6. Item 7, FHV App Rules, was presented for a public hearing. Ryan Wanttaja, Assistant General Counsel at the TLC, gave presentation on the proposed rules, which would create a new rule chapter governing the licensure of FHV Dispatch Applications and amend the rules to enhance existing requirements for FHV bases that use their own smartphone application to dispatch vehicles. The following people testified: Council Member Antonio Reynoso; Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez; Council Member Robert Cornegy; Jarret Hova, Office of Public Advocate Letitia James; Peter Carbonaro, Port Authority; Michelle Lease, Application Developers Alliance; Michael Allegretti, Uber; George Laszlo, Taxi and Limousine Research Center; Michael Simon; Victor Andrew, American Council for the Blind; Steven Shanker, Livery Roundtable; Erin Abrams, Via;
Malina Tran, Coalition for Queens; Fernando Garcia, Association for a Better New York; Anthony Hogrebe, ENGINE; Peter Mazer, MTBOT; Bhairavi Desai, New York Taxi Workers Alliance; Ethan Gerber; Diana Dellamere, Lyft; Michael O’Laughlin, Cab Riders United; Tweeps Phillips, Committee for Taxi Safety; Daniel Panzella; Rob Angelillo, Arkin Solbakken; Mohammed Moaki; and Rafael Rosario. At 12:45 p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting for a recess. The meeting resumed at 1:13 p.m., and the Commission, which was no longer joined by Commissioners Carone and Gonzales, continued to hear testimony on the FHV App Rules. The following people testified: Richard Thaler; Avik Kabessa, Livery Roundtable; Stefano Pascucci; Adalgisa Sanchez; Matt Mincieli, Tech Net; and Kurt Dimitriadis, SnapCar.

7. Item 6, Street Hail Livery Renewal Fee, was presented for a public hearing. Nancy Soria, Green Taxis of New York, testified on the proposed rule.

8. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m.

Minutes as approved by the Taxi and Limousine Commission on June 22, 2015.

Christopher C. Wilson
General Counsel

Date

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Following the meeting, and based on a clarification of the record regarding the status of outstanding trip directives issued to the proposed new owner of the base, certain of the Commissioners requested that the application to transfer be re-opened.